A Wonderful

PROPHECY

By One called

NIXON,

Who lived in *Cheshire*, in the Reign of King *James* VI. of *Scotland*, and I. of *England*,

FORETELLING

Several remarkable Events relating to the United Kingdoms of *Great Britain*, some of which are already accomplish'd, and others to be accomplished (as alledg'd) in the Reign of our Sovereign King *George* II.

WITH

A short Description of that Prophet.

GLASGOW,

Printed in the Year 1738.

AN

ACCOUNT

OF

NIXON,

AND HIS

Cheſhire Prophecy.

NIXON was a ſhort ſquab Fellow, had a grea Head and goggle Eyes, and us'd to ſlobber an drivle when he ſpoke, which was but ſeldom. H was very ſurly, and would run after and beat the Child ren that made Sport at him. He would do nothin without Beating. He had a large Stomach, and woul eat up a great Shoulder of Mutton at a Meal, and Luncheon of Bread and Cheeſe after it.

The Manner how *Nixon* was diſcovered to be a Pro phet, was on this wiſe: *His Maſter being one Day a Plow, and* Nixon *following him, the Boy flopt on a ſud den, and dropt his Bottle and Budget, and ſtood as i a Trance; they beat him, but to no Purpoſe, for he ſtoo ſtill in the ſame Manner above an Hour. At laſt h told them, in every rational Manner, of divers Thing that were done ſome Time before, and of others that woul come to paſs.*

Nixon, our Prophet, was an Ideot, and was employ ed by ſeveral Farmers in *Cheſhire*, as their Plowman an Drudge

Drudge, and as their Jeſt and *Maygame*: At laſt *Thomas Cholmondley* Eſq; took him in his Houſe, and ordered his Stewart to try whether he could make any Thing of him, and to teach him to read. But his Stupidity increaſed; and he could only learn how to hold his Goad right; and drive Oxen at Plow. As he was in the Field with the reſt of the Servants, he let fall his Goad on a ſudden, and was again in an Extaſy; the Servants beat him, but to no Purpoſe, for he ſo continued for an Hour; and then ſaid, *He had ſeen thoſe Things which never Man ſaw before. Strict Juſtice*, ſaid he, *ſhall bring Order into* (a) *confuſed Nation, and a Righteouſneſs and and Mercy ſhall reign when Faction and Rebellion are utterly deſtroyed.*

While he lived with the Gentleman aforeſaid, he foretold *the Civil Wars, the Death of King* Charles I. *the Reſtoration of* Charles II. *King* Jame's *Abdication, the Revolution*, &c. *And*, ſays he, *theſe Things will as certainly happen, as that the King will ſend for me, and I be ſtarved to Death.* When he had finiſhed his Speech, he returned to his natural Dulneſs and Silence: The Servants came home and told theſe Things to their *Maſter*, who ordered them to write down all they could remember; which is preſerved in that Family to this Day.

His grand Prophcey, which hereafter follows; he alſo made while he lived with his Maſter, *Cholmondley*, which he delivered with as much Gravity and Seriouſneſs, as if he had been an Oracle; and tho he was ſo fooliſh that he could not ſpeak common Senſe at another Time, yet when he delivered this Prophecy, he ſpoke very plain and ſenſibly.

Our Prophet *Nixon* lived in the Reign of K. *James* VI. And one Day coming from Plough, he ſat himſelf down, and continued in a melancholly Poſture for ſome Time; but at Length, with a hoarſe Voice, he, ſaid, *Now I'll propheſy*; and then uttered theſe Words following.

(a) This plainly [illegible] K. George

" WHEN a Raven shall build in a Stone Lion's
" Mouth, on the Top of a Church in *Cheshire*,
" then a King of *England* shall be driven out of his
" Kingdom, and never return more.

" When an Eagle shall sit on the Top of the House,
" then an Heir shall be born to *Cholmondeley*'s Family;
" and this Heir shall live to see *England* invaded by
" Foreigners, who shall proceed as far as a Town in
" *Cheshire*; but a Miller, named *Peter*, shall be born
" with two Heels on one Foot, and at that Time living
" in a Mill of Mr. *Cholmondley*'s, he shall be instrumen-
" tal in delivering the Nation. The Person who then
" governs the Nation, will be in Trouble, and sculk
" about; the invading King shall be killed, laid across
" a Horse's Back like a Calf, and led in Triumph: The
" Miller, having been instrumental in it, shall bring
" forth the Person that then governs the Kingdom, and
" be knighted for what he has done; and after, *England*
" shall see happy Days: A young new Set of Men of
" virtuous Manners shall come, who shall prosper
" and make a flourishing Church for two hundred
" Years.

" As a Token of the Truth of all this, a Wall of Mr.
" *Cholmondley*'s shall fall: If downwards, the Church
" shall be oppress't, and rise no more; but if upwards
" then it shall flourish again.

" Under it will be found the Bones of a *British*
" *KING*.

" A Pond shall run with Blood three Days, and the
" Cross stone Pillar in the Forest sink so low into the
" Ground, that a Crow from the Top of it shall drink
" of the best Blood in *England*.

" A Boy shall be born with three Thumbs, and shall
" hold three *KINGS* Horses, while *England* shall
" three Times be won and lost in one Day.

The Original of this Prophecy may be seen in several Families in this County: Mr. *Egerton* of *Olton* has it, with many other Remarkables; as, that *Peckforton*

Wind

Wind-mill ſhould be removed to *Luddinton Hill*; that there ſhould be a great Slaughter of Men; that Horſes ſaddled ſhould run about till their Girths rotted away; and that *Olton Mill* ſhould be driven with Blood inſtead of Water.

Cholmondley is a very ancient Family in *Cheſhire*; and the Seat of that Branch of it that kept *Nixon* is at *Vale Royal*. It was formerly an Abbey founded by *Edward* I.

Paſſages in the Prophecy already fulfilled.

WHEN *Nixon* propheſy'd, this Family was near extinct; but the Heir having married Sir *Walter* St. *John's* Daughter, who being with Child, was in Labour for ſome Days; at which Time an Eagle ſat upon the Houſe-top, and juſt as ſhe was delivered, it *flew away*.

It is alſo well known, that a Raven built a Neſt in a Stone-Lion's Mouth in *Over* Church-ſteeple in the Foreſt of *Da la Mere*.

Not long before the Abdication of King *James*, the *Wall fell down, and fell upwards*; and in the Rubbiſh were found the Bones of a large Man.

At the ſame Time a Pond ran with reddiſh water, which it never did before or ſince.

Headleſs Croſs, in the Foreſt, is now ſunk within Half a Foot of the Ground, altho' it was always many Foot high ſince the Memory of Man.

At *Budworth* a Boy was born with three Thumbs, and is now living.

And in *Nottingſhire Mills* there's now a *Millar* whoſe Name is *Peter*. This *Peter* has *two Heels on one Foot*; but I find he does not intend to make Uſe of them: For he is a very loyal Subject to King *George*; has a Vote for Knight of the Shire, and always gives it on the right Side; in fine *Peter* ſtands up for the good Cauſe *Nixon* has lifted him in; upon which the Lady *Egerton*, wiſhing for another Reſtoration, often perſwaded her Huſ-

Husband to turn him out of the *Mill*, but to no Purpose.

I am credibly informed that the Lady *Narcliff* of *Chelsea*, and the Lady St. *John* of *Batterſea*, uſed to talk of the ſame *Peter*; and they both aſſerted the Truth of this Prophecy, and its Accompliſhment, with other Remarkables.

The Noiſe of *Nixon* at laſt reach'd the Ears of King *James* VI. who ſent for him: But he refuſed to go, alledging, *That he ſhould be ſtarved.* The King, being informed of *Nixon's* fooliſh Refuſal, ſaid, *He would take Care that he ſhould not be ſtarved, and order'd him to be brought up to Town*----But whether he Propheſied to the King, is uncertain; yet he is not the firſt Fool that has made a good Court-prophet.

Now, that *Nixon* might be the better provided for, he was ordered to be kept in the Kitchen; but he grew ſo very troubleſome in licking and picking the Meat, that the Cooks lock'd him up in a Hole; and the King going ſuddenly from *Hampton-court* to *London*, they forgot the Fool in the Hurry, ſo that he was ſtarved to Death at the King's Court, according as he had before foretold.

There are divers Paſſages of our Prophet's Life and Sayings, tranſmitted from Father to Son in this County: To wit, That when he lived with a Farmer, he goared an Ox ſo unmercifully, that one of the Plowmen threatned to beat him for abuſing the Beaſt. *Nixon* ſaid, *That the Beaſt ſhould not be his Maſter's three Days.* Now mark the Event: A Life in an Eſtate falling at that Time, the Lord of the Manour took the ſaid Ox for an Herriot. As whimſical as the Account may ſeem to ſome it was told to the Lady *Cowper*, in the Year 1670, by Dr. *Patrick* late Biſhop of *Ely*, then Chaplain to Sir *Walter St. John*; and that Lady had the following Particulars relating to this Prophecy, and the fulfilling of many Parts of it, from Madam *Cholmondley's* Siſter, who affirm'd as follows.

That a multitude of People gathering together to ſee the Fools [illegible] was frighted

from her Young; that she herself was one that saw this; and that the Cry among the People was, *Now Nixon's Prophecy is fulfilled, and we shall have a foreign King.* She declared that she had read over the Prophecy divers Times, when her Sister was with Child of the Heir that now enjoys the Estate.

She remembred that King *James* II. was plainly pointed at, and that it was foretold, *He should endeavour to subvert the Laws and Religion of this Kingdom, for which Reason his Subjects would rise, and turn him out. That the Eagle propheſied of, perch'd in the Window all the Time her Sister was in Labour.* She said, It was the largeſt Bird she ever saw; and that she and many others have open'd the Window, and endeavour'd to scar it away, but in vain, for 'twould not stir till her Sister was brought to Bed; after which it flew to a great Tree, oppoſite the Chamber her Sister lay in, where it stay'd about three Days, and then flew away in the Night.

She affirmed further to the Lady *Cowper, That the Falling of the Garden wall, was a Thing beyond all Doubt; becauſe many People, now living, remember it: That it was foretold, That the Heir of* Vale Royal *ſhould live to ſee* England *invaded by Foreigners: That the Miller mentioned, is alive and expect's to be knighted, and is in the very Mill that is propheſied of: That he ſhould kill two Invaders, who would come in, the one from the Weſt, and the other from the North: That he from the North ſhould bring with him* Danes, Germans, *and* Dutch; *and that in the Folds of his Garments he ſhould bring Fire and Famine, Plague and Murder: That many Battles ſhould be fought in* England; *one upon* London bridge, *which would be ſo bloody, that People ſhould ride up to their Horſes Bellies in Blood: That ſeveral other Battles ſhould be fought up and down muſt Parts of* Cheſhire; *and that the laſt that ever ſhould be fought in* England, *ſhould be on* De la Mere Foreſt: *That the Heir of* Olton, *whoſe Name is* E----, *ſhould be hanged up at his own Gate.*

He

He foretels great Glory and Prosperity to those who stand up in the Defence of their Laws and Liberties, and Ruin and Misery to those that betray them. He says, *The Year before this would happen, Bread should be very dear; and that the Year following more Troubles should begin, which would last three Years; that the first would be moderate, the second bloody, and the third intolerable; and that there were no Mischiefs, but what poor* England *would feel at that Time. But that* George *the Son of* George *should put an End to all: And that afterwards the Church should flourish, and* England *be a happy Nation.*

'Tis observable, that Mr. *Cholmondley*, going by the Garden wall the Morning before it fell, said, *I believe* Nixon *is out in his Prophecy; for he foretold, that this Day my* Garden wall *should fall down, and I think it looks as if it would stand these forty Years.* But he had not been gone Half an Hour before the Wall fell upwards, which, as *Nixon* would have it, presaged a flourishing Church. This is the more remarkable, because Workmen were yearly kept to support the Wall, and to inspect it every Month; and just before it fell, they gave in their Report that it would last an Hundred Years without Repair.

Peckforton-mill according to the Prophecy, was remov'd to *Luddinton-hill*, by Sir *John Frew*; and Sir *John* being ask'd, If he did it to fulfil the Prophecy, he solemnly declared, *He never thought of it.*

Prodigies and Prophecies are no uncommon Things in the County of *Cheshire*. *Camden* the Historian tells us, *That at* Brereton *there is a Thing as strange as the Perching of the Eagle, or Falling of the Wall*, which he says is well attested; It is this, *That before any Heir of the Family (belonging to the Seat aforesaid,) dies, there are seen in a Lake adjoining, the Bodies of Trees swimming up the Water, for several Days together.* This the learned *Camden* relates in his Description of *Cheshire*. And the Opinion of the *Trees swimming in the Lake aforesaid* prevails all about the Country to this Day.

FINIS.